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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 9614/OL414

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hiroshi IIZUKA et al.

Serial No: 09/908,993

Examiner: Ivars C. CINTINS

Confirmation No.: 6849

Filed: July 19, 2001

Art Unit: 1724

For: **WATER SOFTENING DEVICE**

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Box RCE

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified patent application upon which prosecution is closed.

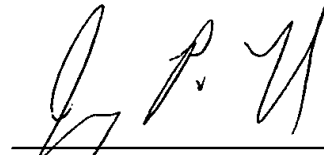
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750.00 DP

1. This request has been filed before the payment of the issue fee, abandonment of the application, the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the commencement of a civil action under 35 U.S.C. §145 or 146.
2. This request is accompanied by a submission in the form of an Information Disclosure Statement and a Response.
3. A Petition for Extension of Time accompanies this Request.
4. A check in the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the fee required under 37 C.F.R §1.17(e).

Respectfully submitted,



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